

GOOD NEIGHBORLY NEWS

ISSUE 1

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PUBLICATION

WINTER - 2007

Neighborhood Watch Block Captains:

Please distribute this newsletter to your block participants. Need a white copy? Go to our website at:

www.ci.carlsbad.ca.us
and subscribe to the newsletter or just print the current edition.

Editor-Jodee Sasway
Crime Prevention
760) 931-2105
jsasw@ci.carlsbad.ca.us

Police Contacts:

Website
www.ci.carlsbad.ca.us

Emergency
9 1 1

Non-emergency
(760) 931-2197

Crime Statistic Hotline
(760) 931-2201

Other Crime Statistics
(760) 931-2279

**Police Watch
Commander**
(760) 931-2115

Traffic Unit
(760) 931-2106

Narcotics Unit
(760) 931-2193

Records Division
(760) 931-2119

Detective Division
(760) 931-2145

Senior Volunteer Patrol
(760) 931-2214

Community Services
(760) 931-2177

The Crime Prevention Unit's mission is the anticipation, recognition and appraisal of crime risk and the initiation of some action to remove or reduce it.

Neighborhood Watch E-Mail Alerts



The newly implemented Neighborhood Watch E-mail Alert program is off to a great start. Many Block Captains have responded registering their e-mail addresses enabling the Police Department to notify them if there is unusual crime activity in their area.

How it works: The City of Carlsbad is broken into police beats. The beats are 10 geographically divided areas of the City. The beats are broken further into reporting districts. E-mail alert participants are registered by beat and reporting district, enabling the Crime Prevention Unit to notify participants of unusual activity in an area as small as their reporting district.

Along with the alert comes crime prevention information to share with neighbors in an effort to prevent further activity.

The alert system began in the third quarter of 2006 and by the end of the year, the Crime Prevention Unit had sent out 6 alerts. The majority of the alerts were inspired by vehicle related crime and vandalism.

It is not too late to become a participant in the E-mail Alert System. E-mail the Crime Prevention Unit at jsasw@ci.carlsbad.ca.us to register for this program.

Additionally, do not forget to check the "Crime Statistic Hotline" Thursday afternoon to hear up-to-dated crime activity in the community of Carlsbad.

Do not call! Do not write!

The do-not-call list was created in 2003 to remove a powerful irritant from the lives of Americans, unwanted phone solicitations. The Federal Trade Commission, which administers the list, says that more than 137 million phone numbers have been registered.

The popularity of the do-not-call list created a demand for other opt-out lists. A consumer can now opt-out of the standard practice of their banks or loan companies selling their information to others. Other opt-outs stop credit card companies from soliciting or end the flow of junk mail and catalogs. Not only do the opt-out lists help to relieve unwanted interruptions, they can protect your personal information from identity thieves.

Here is a master list of where you can take control:



Phone Solicitations - Go to donotcall.gov. Or call toll free, (888)382-1222, from the number you are going to restrict. You can register cell phone numbers as well. A listing is good for five years.

Junk Mail - You can try to opt out of direct mail solicitations, but it will probably not work. The Direct Marketing Association handles that list and not every merchant is a rule-abiding member. Write the association, in care of the Mail Preference Service at P.O. Box 643, Carmel, N.Y. 10512. Or, there is an online form at www.the-dma.org/consumers/offmailinglist.htm.

E-mail - Do not respond to any unsolicited e-mail message when it gives you the option to opt out of

Gangs

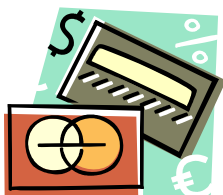
As gang activity rises nationwide, look for these indicators that your child might be involved.

- Shows unusual interest in one or two particular colors of certain clothing
- Show an unusual interest in gangster-influenced music, movies or websites
- Uses unusual hand signals to communicate with friends
- Has specific drawings or gang symbols on school books, clothes, walls or tattoos
- Has unexplained physical injuries, especially to hands
- Has unexplained cash, clothing, or jewelry
- Carries a weapon
- Gets into trouble with the police and breaks the rules consistently
- Shows negative changes in behavior
- Withdraws from the family
- School attendance and grades decline
- Uses drugs

These are just some of the indications that your child needs your help.

Don't Call! Don't write! (Cont.)

receiving more e-mail. That is a trick used by spammers to confirm they hit a good e-mail address. Once that happens, your address goes to a prime list and is sold to other spammers. You may even find legitimate businesses eventually using the list. Other than spam filters, there is no good way to prevent spam. You can try to make it harder for spammers to get your address in the first place by never posting your address in public forums.



Credit Card

Offers - Call (888) 567-8688, but be ready to give out

some personal information like your Social Security number. The major credit bureaus, like Experian, Equifax and TransUnion, that collect information on your borrowing habits let you opt-out of what they call prescreened credit offers at www.optoutprescreen.com. You can do it for five years or permanently. Opting out of prescreened offers of credit might also be useful when you apply for a mortgage. When you seek a loan, the credit bureaus notice and they put you on a "trigger list." The information is then sold to other lenders in as little time as 24 hours.



Credit Freeze

- You'll hear it recommended as a way to protect yourself from fraud because once you sign up to have your

credit report frozen, **no company** can get access to your credit report without your expressed permission. Think long and hard before you do this. You might be buying an expensive flat-screen TV at a warehouse store and want to get the instant credit card to get another 5 percent discount. You will not be able to without unfreezing your report. Use the credit freeze only if you are a true

victim of identity theft, which means that some criminal has your personal information and is opening up credit card accounts, borrowing money or buying property.



Other Opt-Outs - Your personal information is accessible in less obvious ways. For instance, your computer tracks what sites you have visited online. DoubleClick, a company that collects data for online advertisers, offers a way to prevent your computer from giving it information at <http://www.doubleclick.com/us/about-doubleclick/privacy/dart-adserving.asp>. But again, it is only a piecemeal solution. Other online advertising companies will still put "cookies" on your computer to collect the same data. So the next-best solution is to frequently run software that cleans out cookies.

Further, your personal information, including parts of your Social Security number, are available in online data bases that you may never see. Nexis, one of the biggest, says you can opt-out of its people-finding lists by going to www.lexisnexis.com/terms/privacy/data/remove.asp. Nexis does not make it easy because it requires that you prove you are a victim of identity theft before it will consider your application.

The Center for Democracy and Technology provides addresses and forms for other companies, like ChoicePoint, that do not let you opt-out online (<http://opt-out.cdt.org>).

Real Estate Filings

- You have to file deeds with the local government office and once you do, companies

compile lists of new homeowners from the public records. That's why you get the discount coupons from merchants' right after you buy. Birth certificates and marriage licenses are also scraped for data. There is little you can do about it because the records are public.

